

PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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Madison, Wisconsin -- Erik C. Peterson, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Luis Eduardo Pena-Maldonado, DOB 5/12/81, a native of Mexico, was sentenced today by U.S. District Judge John C. Shabaz to 41 months in prison for unlawfully re-entering the United States after he was previously deported. Pena-Maldonado's federal sentence will be served after he completes his current state prison sentence for distribution of narcotics, which runs until February 2008.

Pena-Maldonado was arrested by the Wisconsin State Patrol in Portage County in August 2005. The State Patrol responded to a traffic accident in which Pena-Maldonado's vehicle was involved, and marijuana was discovered in the vehicle. Subsequently, he was convicted in Portage County Circuit Court of possession with intent to distribute marijuana.

The federal charge against the defendant was the result of an investigation conducted by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. The prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Paul W. Connell.

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